The myth of free trade

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The idea of free trade is a myth that has been propagated by the wealthy and powerful to benefit themselves at the expense of the poor and vulnerable. Free trade agreements have been used to exploit developing countries and to transfer wealth from the global South to the global North. As a result, inequalities between countries and within countries have increased, with the gap between the rich and the poor widening.

The myth of free trade is based on the idea that free trade is good for everyone. However, when we look at the reality, we see that the benefits of free trade are not shared equally. The wealthy and powerful nations benefit the most, while the poor and vulnerable nations suffer the most.

The myth of free trade is also based on the idea that free trade is good for the environment. However, when we look at the reality, we see that free trade is contributing to environmental degradation. The pursuit of cheap goods and services has led to the exploitation of the environment, with the extraction of natural resources from developing countries.

The myth of free trade is also based on the idea that free trade is good for democracy. However, when we look at the reality, we see that free trade is undermining democracy. The powerful corporations that benefit from free trade have a disproportionate influence over political decision-making, with the result that the interests of the wealthy and powerful are prioritized over the interests of the poor and vulnerable.

In conclusion, the myth of free trade is a dangerous misconception that has been used to justify the exploitation of the poor and vulnerable. We need to reject this myth and work towards a more equitable and sustainable system of trade.
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